

Exclusively Yours--- BETTY BEALE

The man whose birthday causes the most stir in Washington, second only to George Washington, was feted again yesterday. Speaker Sam Rayburn's hand was clasped or his cheek kissed by some 200 guests at the Dale Millers' party at the Woman's National Democratic Club.

For the 10th or 12th year in a row—they've lost track—the Texas Millers gave an afternoon to-do in honor of the Lone Star State's leading statesman. It was his 73rd birthday, though he was giving his age as 33. Don't know how he timed his birthday so well with the opening



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of Congress, but it certainly gives agreeable emphasis to the annual launching of the Capitol Hill season.

Mr. Sam was in fine spirits—tossing compliments and dry quips as fast as his friends filed down the line. His predecessor who just turned the gavel over to him, former Speaker Joe Martin, was one of them. He also was one of the few Republicans in the vicinity of the club and he didn't linger long in that Democratic atmosphere.

Texas Flavor

Heading the receiving line was Mr. Miller, who represents the Dallas Chamber of Commerce, and if somehow his Texas origin had escaped you, you might have guessed it from the snappy black brocade vest he was wearing, em-

Speaker Rayburn Is Greeted, Kissed And Serenaded at Birthday Reception

broidered all over with tiny longhorns.

His wife, "Scooter," stood next to him in a pretty light blue satin dress with a beaded bodice. Then came Mr. Rayburn who was exuding so much charm I didn't notice what he was wearing. And beside him stood his two sisters, Miss Lucinda and Mrs. S. E. Bartley. Before long the Millers' young daughter, Marta, joined them in a white net evening frock with a short red jacket. When more and more members of the Texas delegation arrived, you had the feeling that the family was growing.

Senators Lyndon Johnson and Price Daniels of Texas were there, but the former wouldn't comment on the much-discussed speech freshman Senator Neuberger made

at the Women's National Press Club dinner the night before. The Majority Leader said it was important for the man in his position to keep the friendliest relations with both sides of the Senate.

Political Stew Discussed

But Senator Albert Gore gave his interpretation of the speech which decried character-assassination in political campaigns without naming any names. He repeated to Senator and Mrs. Mike Monroney the comment he made immediately after the talk. "Neuberger should go home and wash his hands as did Pontius Pilate, for he murdered Nixon tonight," he said.

There was talk about the absence of Senator and Mrs. Barkley from the press dinner, to which they received any number of invitations.

Although Associate Justice and Mrs. Stanley Reed are giving a party for them Sunday afternoon, it is understood the Barkleys have announced their intention of keeping their social activities down to a minimum. The "Veep" wants to spend all his time being a Senator.

Senator Dick Russell was there talking at a great rate to sportscaster Dutch Bergman. Ball games was the subject, and the Senator said that so often when the legislators have their heads together in the Senate cloakroom and it's generally supposed they are discussing world problems, it's baseball, instead.

Perle Mesta, who had been upset by Katie Malone's booing of Senator Neuberger Wednesday night, was there with no further comment on the subject. Gwen Cafritz also was on hand, wearing a

red velvet suit topped by a gray mink stole.

Song to Sam

British Ambassador and Lady Makins and Belgian Ambassador and Baroness Silvercruys were the only diplomats present. They got there in time to hear the host announce, "We are all here tonight to pay affectionate tribute to an old and beloved friend," adding that the best way to express their sentiments was in song. So song-writer Hank Fort, he said, had written a song for the occasion entitled "Happy Birthday, Uncle Sam." Hank sang it through to accordionist Devron's accompaniment. Then the whole crowd sang it together.

Speaker Rayburn's nephew, Federal Communications Commissioner Robert T. Bartley, was there with his wife. And members of the Texas delegation included Representatives Clark Thompson, Albert Thomas, W. R. Poage, Wright Patman, Homer Thornberry, Walter Rogers, Paul Kilday, Frank Ikard, and new ones, Joseph Kilgore, Bruce Alger and John Bell, and their wives. Also bachelor Representative Jack Brooks.

Senators Stuart Symington and Russell Long talked political shop. Senator and Mrs. Robert Kerr dropped by, and so did Mrs. Fred Vinson with Mr. Lawrence Hager, publisher of the Owensboro (Ky.) Messenger Inquirer. Nancy Kefauver, with Charles All-dridge—it was his birthday, too. Justice and Mrs. Tom Clark, Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Charles P. Cabell, Mr. Edgar Morris and his sister, Miss Mary Morris, and the Ralph Pittmans, all dressed for the Board of Trade dinner for new Congressmen. Mr. Tom Sutherland of Austin, Tex., who came with his sister and brother-in-law, the Les Carpenters, and Louisiana Representative and Mrs. Hale Boggs, with visiting New Orleans Councilman Brown Moore. I was introduced to him in Southern accents five times before I discovered his name wasn't Mr. Moah.